

California OES Weather Threat Briefing

Saturday, March 2, 2019
9:00 AM PST

Day 1: A quick-moving storm system will move through the state today. There is a slight chance of flash flooding due to isolated thunderstorms, but otherwise any flooding impacts should be minor. Travel will continue to be impaired in the Sierra due to snow and gusty winds.

National Weather Service
*Western Region Headquarters
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WEATHER KEY POINTS

03/02/19 - 03/08/19

Saturday – Quick-moving storm

- The storm system will continue to move through the state today through early Sunday. This system will move through the state faster than the previous storm and will track further south, bringing precipitation to basically the entire state.
- Total rainfall amounts over the northern half of the state are expected to be 0.30-0.60"; higher amounts expected over the southern half of the state, with amounts 0.75-1.50".
 - In general, rainfall rates are not expected to exceed critical thresholds for debris flows. However, there is a slight chance of thunderstorms Saturday, which could produce a minor debris flow in southern California if the heaviest rainfall passes over a recent burn scar.
- Heavy snow is expected across the Sierra, with snow levels around 5500 feet for the northern Sierra and 7000 feet for the southern Sierra; 1-2 feet accumulation possible. Road closures through mountain passes are expected.
- Winds gusts in excess of 40 mph over the mountains will result in reduced visibility in blowing snow and will make driving difficult.

Sunday-Monday – Break in storms

- Lingering showers possible Sunday, especially along the northern Sierra and in far northern California.
- Otherwise, will see a much needed break in wet weather before the next system moves through.

Tuesday-Wednesday – Next storm

- This next system looks wetter than the weekend storm, with moderate to heavy rainfall expected at times. This will likely be another statewide storm, and could once again produce travel impacts, small stream/river flooding, urban flooding, and a chance of debris flows on recent burn scars.
 - Still relatively low confidence for which parts of the state will get the most precipitation, but the most likely scenario at the moment appears to be a widespread 1-3" of rain across the state.

Thursday-Friday – Lingering showers

- Generally lighter precipitation may continue to linger through the end of the week, especially in the Sierra.
- Colder air is expected to move into the region, leading to lowering snow levels and cooler temperatures.



CALIFORNIA WEATHER IMPACTS

03/02/19 - 03/08/19

<u>Hazards / Day</u>	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Non-Thunderstorm Damaging Winds	Inland/ Southern			All Regions	All Regions	Inland	Inland
Snow	Inland	Inland		All Regions	All Regions	Inland	Inland
Coastal Flooding							
River Flooding	Inland			All Regions	All Regions	All Regions	All Regions
Thunderstorms (Wind / Hail / Tornadoes)	Southern						
Fire Weather (Low Humidity / Wind / Dry Thunderstorms)							
Heat Risk							
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding / Debris Flow	Southern/ Inland			All Regions	All Regions		
Extreme Cold							



No Impacts



Minimal Impacts



Moderate Impacts



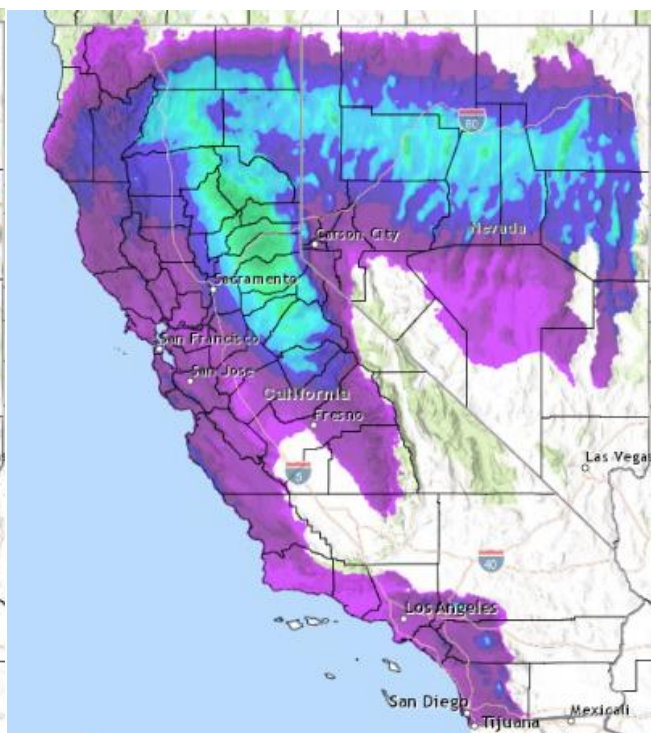
Severe Impacts

PRECIPITATION FORECAST

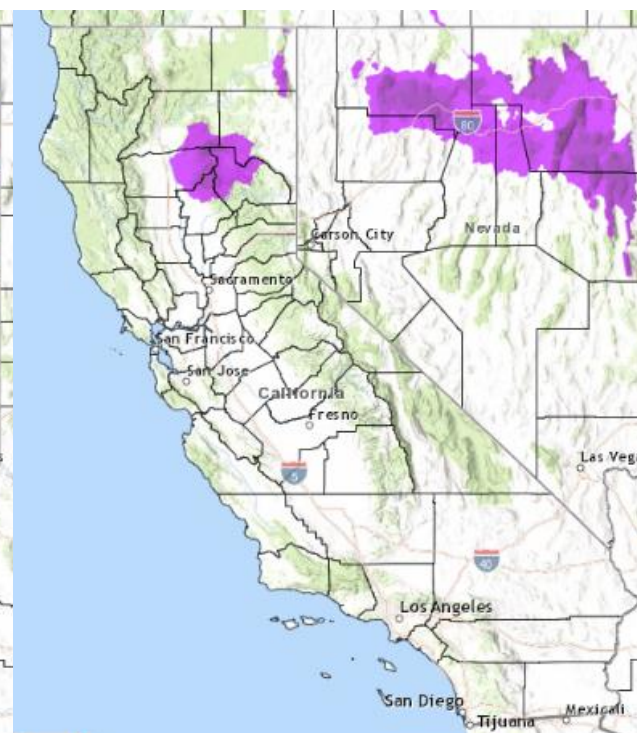
03/02 – 03/04



Saturday



Sunday



Monday

Precipitation (inches)



WEATHER OUTLOOK

03/07/19 - 03/15/19

6-10 Day Outlook (Mar 7 – Mar 11)

Temperatures

- Strong confidence in below normal temperatures statewide

Precipitation

- Moderate to strong confidence in above normal precipitation statewide

8-14 Day Outlook (Mar 9 – Mar 15)

Temperatures

- Moderate confidence in below normal temperatures statewide

Precipitation

- Moderate confidence in above normal precipitation statewide



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